

Name: Daniella ARCHER

Class: 8B



## A DIGITAL NOVEL STUDY

What do you think the title "Inanimate Alice" means?

I think its about a girl who is not alive, she  
might be a doll or a ghost. This girl may also  
metaphorically not be alive. She might be left out or  
feel invisible.

As we read the PRINT version of the first episode, what questions do you have about the story?

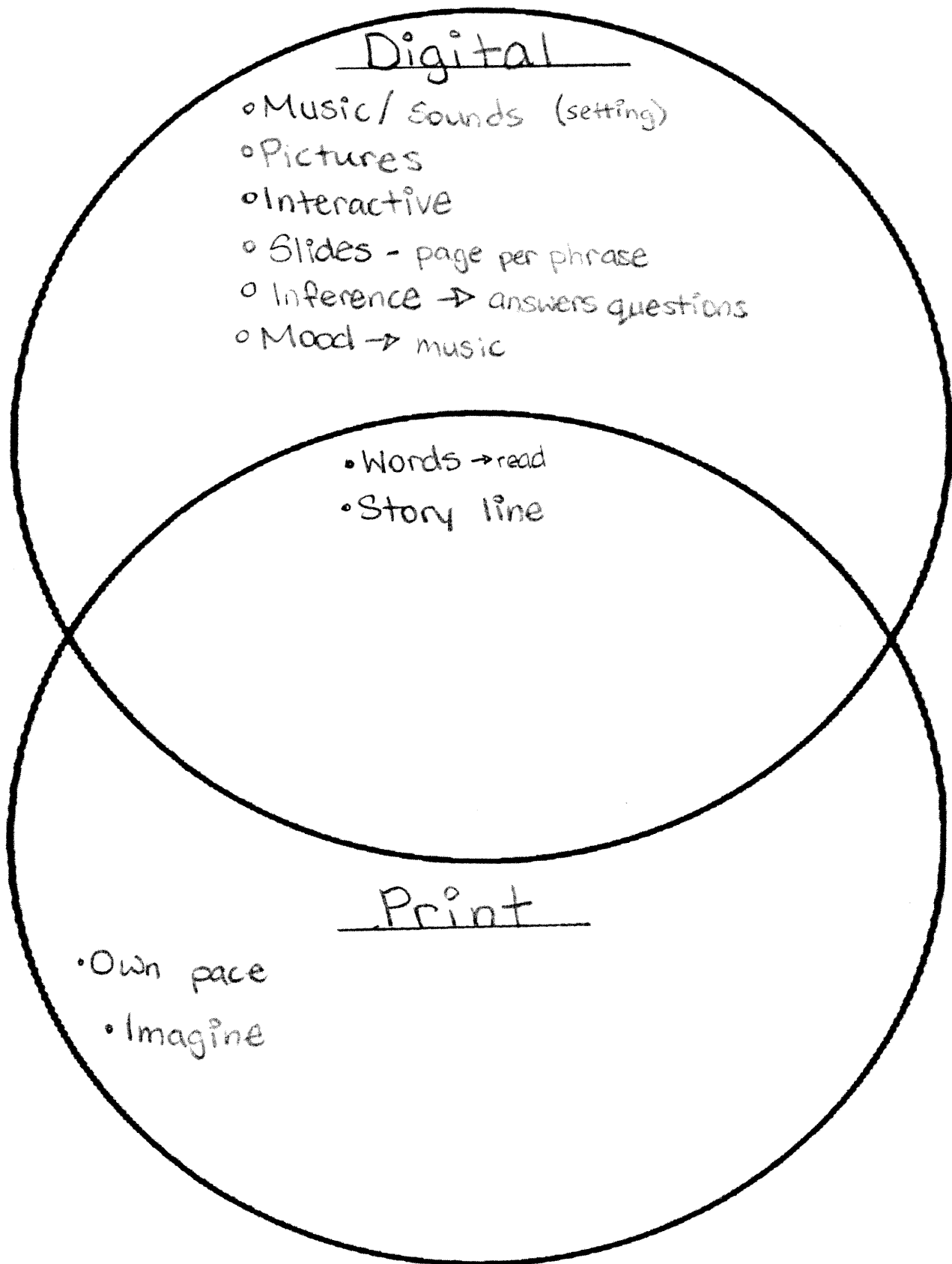
Record them below:

- ① Why did her dad go on a trip?
- ② What does/is a booki?
- ③ What did her mother think changed? (different answers)
- ④ Are they military based? (base camp)
- ⑤ What part of Northern China do they live in? → Not in a town? why?
- ⑥ What is a "player"? is it an MP3?
- ⑦ Does this take place in present day China?
- ⑧ Why have they never tried to look for John?
- ⑨ What does a humming sky entail?
- ⑩ Who is Brad, why did she draw him?
- ⑪ Why can Brad speak in her head?
- ⑫ Why are they always on the move?
- ⑬ Why do they expect a signal to be every where?
- ⑭ Electric cars?      ⑮ No restaurants?

What inferences are you beginning to make about Alice and her story?

- ① Alice's dad is not Chinese (name), mom is
- ② They live far away from civilization
- ③ Alice is lonely - wants dog, brad
- ④ Alice is gifted/cursed can hear Brad

What differences and similarities do you find between PRINT and DIGITAL narratives?



## YOUR PERSONAL RESPONSE TO READING A DIGITAL STORY...

What did you do as you read the story? Were your eyes scanning each screen from left to right? How did you feel about the sound, images, and words that would appear all at the same time on certain screens?

- ORDER: words, images, sounds/videos, look for arrow
- Too much @ once → words, wait then image/sound
- Music → distracting → different languages

What did you enjoy most about “reading” a digital story?

- Decide when to move on
- Emphasis given on words (broken-up well)
- Set mood (dramatic)
- Interactive
- Better explanation

What did you find the most difficult about reading Episode 1?

- Music was distracting / too loud
- Screen moving / shaking
- Too much going on / overwhelming

What part of digital reading did you find really worked for you and why?

- Quick read / reader (not too fast-paced)

How will you read Episode 2 differently? How will you prepare? What tips might you share with other readers for their first digital story reading experience?

- Focus less on sound
- Read words, worry about rest later, it is first and foremost a book!

After viewing Episode 1 and 2...

What do we know about Alice?

- Alice is now 10
- Parents were both lost → parents unsafe
- New location → blizzard/ski
- From Saudi → compound
- Has tutor
- Enjoys puzzles
- Brad is her friend (fake) → hear his voice
- Nervous/timid

What don't we know about Alice?

- Why they go skiing?
- When's her birthday?
- Only child?
- Why on compound?
- Speaks English

What can we infer?

- Alice is tech savvy
- Alice is a risk taker
- Very mature for age

Now that we've heard 2 episodes of Alice...what do you think she looks like and describe her character!

Physical  
description

- Short / Tiny
- Black hair
- Pale
- Asian ?

Personality

- Brave
- Worry Wart / Panics

What she does

- Plays computer / handheld
- Learns - school / tutor
- Skis
- Draws
- Makes / Does puzzles

Where she lives

- Saudi Arabia / China  
↳ compound
- Travels

What makes her interesting

- Ability to use/create with technology
- Always travelling





- Alice is 13
- Moscow, Russia
- Apartment → old / depressing
- 7 Years
- No School → father says no
- Closet → male voices → argue

• Winter

• Large bedroom

Episode 3... This time we are going to explore the digital feature of music and sound effects in the story as well as working on a CLOSE READING LOG.

• Dad  
• Works in Siberia  
• Oil

How did the music and sound effects help construct the main story ideas on each screen?

• Parent argue

• Has Computer

• Calls parents 1" now

• With rain → mysterious

• slow / building (strings)

• Dramatic / uneasy

• Adventurous

• Stronger accents

• Kidnapping

• Background lull

• Matryos 'collect dolls

• Sad - lonely

• Leaving

• New voice → picks up with speed

• Lost

• Mysterious

• Increase in speed

• Airport

• checkpoints

What kind of sound effects are there? Do they sound artificial or natural? What is their purpose?

• Ming (mom)  
• long hair

• Voice → uneasy

• plane take-off

• Cars

• Buzzing when quiet → get quiet

• Door creaking → mysterious

• "torch"

• Knock → feel how Alice feels

↳ British

• Player → realistic

• Children → atmosphere (overwhelming)

• Leave Russia

• Something breaking

↳ Contamination → "big leak"

How is silence used in this episode? Does the person or scene fit the silence?

• "I'm scared" → draw in

• Quieter → says "silence" → quiet for a second → scream

• Feels alone

## Student Resource 3

### The Digitally Literate Classroom: Reading Inanimate Alice, Episode 3

#### Close Reading Log

As you read Episode 3: Russia, Inanimate Alice make some points here about what is happening in the story. Try to write at least one piece of information each time an arrow (which links to the next part of the story) appears on a screen. The first one has been done for you.

Information	Interpretation
Alice is 13 years old. There is an image of a doll. The music speeds up.	She's a teenager but maybe a lonely as she still likes to play with dolls. The speed of the music suggests there will be some action soon.
	<u>OMIT</u>

Episode 4... After viewing Episode 4, you are going to create a VOKI of Alice introducing this episode.

Write your script here:

[illegible]

After you have read this out loud to a partner and checked with Mrs. Eby, you can proceed to <http://voki.com/> to create your account and make your Voki.

Episode 5...Guess what? It's your turn! Are you ready to create an Episode for Inanimate Alice?

